

**TOWN OF  
DAYTON, INDIANA**

**ORIGINAL**

**UTILITY BOARD  
Telephone Meeting**

**SETTLED:**

**INCORPORATED:**

**Minutes of  
April 12, 2021**

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript.  
Audio of this meeting can be found at [Dayton.in.gov](http://Dayton.in.gov)

**TOWN COUNCIL:**

Jen Manago, Town Board President  
Stan Kyger, Town Board Vice President  
Ron Koehler, Utility President  
Carla Snodgrass, Utility Vice President  
Ashley Stevenson, Council Member

**CLERK-TREASURER:**

Michelle Frewerd C/T

Utility President, Ron Koehler called the meeting to order. In attendance on the phone were: Council Members Jen Manago, Carla Snodgrass, Stan Kyger and Ashley Stevenson. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Michelle Frewerd, Town Attorney-Reid Murtaugh, Mark Harlow and Marshal Taylor.

Ron Koehler pointed out for the record that the council has always received packets before each meeting that contain the most important documents and reports on the agenda. The town's Internal Control Ordinance says the Clerk-treasurer will upload documents to a folder and/or printed upon request. Dayton's Clerk-Treasurer refuses to abide by the ordinance and refuses to even print the documents and make the meeting packets.

He thanked the new utility clerk for filling in and making the packets.

**Attorney:**

Utility Account Repayment Plans- Nothing to report yet.

**Adjustment Report:**

January 2021, February 2021 and March 2021- Michelle explained that the large amounts in adjustments had to do with cleaning up the closed accounts from years ago to current that have not had their deposits applied to their accounts to clear them out. Michelle explained that there are still several people that are due remaining refunds from left over deposits.

Wait until next month to go over all paperwork.

**Utility Superintendent Report:**

**Lead/Copper Training-** Received training on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Town is required to collect 10 samples every 3 years; the samples have always come back good.

**Spring Grease/Grit Inspections-** These are required in the Spring and Fall. Will be completed in April.

**Spring Lift Station Inspections-** Would like to get it on the schedule. FJF normally does the testing and cleaning. In 2020 it cost around \$1500 for each visit. Mark can go ahead and continue with the

gm  
ml  
ru  
CP



contract and get it scheduled.

**CCMG application-** The state has not released any information yet on the grant awards.

**South Yost Drive-** Recontacted INDOT regarding the road near Dollar General, INDOT feels like it is not their road, they feel like it is Dayton's Road. Mark questioned why it was rejected then in the town's CCMG grant application. INDOT stated that they would look into it.

**Annual Street Sweeping-** Fish Fry is Saturday, May 15 so Mark would like to schedule it a week preceding the fish fry. In 2020 the cost was \$1365 for the street sweeping.

**SR 38 Utility Relocate-** Received email from the state with information regarding the project and it is moving forward. The next step is to find a contractor to give a bid to the town.

**Mr. Fence it-** Council believes that the contractor should have to pay for the damage since they are the one who damaged it during the ditch cleanout.

### **Town Hall Opening:**

Ashley- stated that Town Hall needs to be open to the public.

Jen- stated that it makes sense to be open Monday-Friday 9-3.

Stan-Stated that he believes town hall should be open to pay bills but follow social distancing rules and masks that the Tippecanoe County Health Department suggests.

Ron Koehler made a motion to open town hall on Monday, April 19, 2021 Monday-Friday 9-3 or by appointment only with the proper covid safety measures and social distancing, masks are recommended but not required...Carla Snodgrass seconded the motion...carried roll call vote 5-0.

Jen Manago-Yes

Carla Snodgrass-Yes

Stan Kyger-Yes

Ashley Stevenson-Yes

Ron Koehler-Yes

### **DUMC Utility Donations:**

Ron stated that the Dayton United Methodist Church is generously donating to utilities to help people who are struggling.

Ron stated that he thinks it appalling and disgusting that the donations have been awarded by the clerk in an unethical manner that rewards her political supporters and pals. A few people have received \$500-\$600. The Utility Board needs to bring some integrity into the way the money is distributed and set parameters of who is eligible and determine unbiased ways to select recipients. He said anyone who has already received a donation and town officials and employees should be excluded.

Jen stated that it has been handled "inappropriately".

Jen stated that Michelle had given people money NOT to get caught up and some had a credit on their accounts. She suggested that the Utility Clerk and Utility President and Vice President select 10 people each month.

Michelle explained how she picked the accounts that she did. She said she didn't give to friends, elected officials, or family. She said she looked for high balances and how long they were past due, not at the names. Then she said she knew people's personal situation and knew who had hardships.

Ron accused Michelle of "lying right through her teeth", that the people that she picked had her political signs in their yard or wore a black shirt and trashed them on Facebook and they're going to get away from that.

Michelle said he was lying.

Ron said if they could make the names public the whole world would know.

Jen pointed out that Michelle said she looked at the list but not the names and then said she knew people's personal stories and chose people that way.

*Handwritten signatures and initials in blue ink, including "RM", "AM", "MS", and "CS".*

Michelle said the council is going to pick their supporters.

Ron Koehler made a motion to apply \$100 donations to 10 resident accounts each month from Dayton United Methodist Church that the utility board and Bridget choices...Jen Manago seconded a motion...carried roll call vote 5-0.

Jen Manago-Yes

Carla Snodgrass-Yes

Stan Kyger-Yes

Ashley Stevenson-Yes

Ron Koehler-Yes

Ron thanked the Church for this and everything they do for the community.

**Reports of Council Members:**

Ashley Stevenson- Asked where they were at about the drainage ditch. Mark stated that one resident still has not responded.

Ron- Stated that Steve Brock should have the utility rate study by the next meeting. The council wants to do anything possible to lower the utilities. Looking into getting a cost estimate for restoring the upstairs of town hall. Wants Michelle to contact Staples and Menards to update charge list and tax-exempt list to current council list, Mark, Michelle, Utility Clerk, and Scott. Old council members and at least one old council member spouse and a former employee were still on the list.

**Ron Koehler adjourned the meeting.**

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Michelle Frewerd**

**Clerk Treasurer**

*gm* *RLK*  
*AKS*